GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2191
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2006
R D ACTIVITIES IN PHARMACEUTICAL SECTOR
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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to expand research and development activities in the pharmaceutical sector ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the public sector undertakings in the pharmaceutical sector units in this regard;

(c) whether the private sector companies including Multi-National Companies are very keen to make India their destination to expand R&D activities; and

(d) if so, the aid/assistance given to such companies ?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir, The Government have taken several steps and measures including restructuring of Public Sector undertaking to expand Research and Development (R&D) activities in the pharmaceutical sector

(c) & (d): Yes Sir, private sector companies are keen to expand the R&D activities in the country. Many multinational companies, as reported in World Investment Report 2005, released by UNCTAD have mentioned India as a favoured destination in various sectors including pharmaceuticals. Government have been providing various fiscal incentives to industry including Drugs and Pharma companies to promote research. During the year 2004-05 the Government have extended financial support in the form of Loan Assistance to the tune of Rs.1275 lakhs to 6 Drugs & Pharma companies for R&D under Pharmaceutical Research & Development Support Fund (PRDSF) Programme of Department of Science & Technology (DST) and New Millennium India Technology Leadership Initiatives (NMITLI) of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).